Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /066 W

R 010846Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9581 AMEMBASSY LOME AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EFIN, GB

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT OF GABON'S FOREIGN DEBT

- 1. FRANK R. DAVIS, WHO STATED HE HAD RECENTLY RETIRED AS VICE PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION, CALLED AT EMBASSYFEW DAYS AGO TO TELL US THAT HE WAS QTE INPROCESS OF BEING DESIGNATED AS FINANCILA ADVISER UNQTE TO GOG MINISTER OF FINANCE JEROME LKINDA FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF MANAGING GABON'S DEBT. DAVIS CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED FOR POSITION BY EUGENE IMBERT, WHOM DAVIS HAD KNOWN YEARS AGO AND WHO IS CONSTRUCTIN ENGINEER BY PROFESSION AND ALSO TECHNICAL ADVISER TO PRESEIDENT BONGO. DAVIS ALSO CALLED ON LOCAL CITIBANK REPRESENTATIVE, TO WHOM HE RELATED ESSENTIALLY SAME STORY.
- 2. IMBERT, WHO DID NOT COME TO EMBASSY, CALLED ON CITIBANK DIRECTOR. IMBERT TOLD CITIBANK THAT HE IS QTE KNOWN TO FRENCH ADMINISTRATION UNQTE AND THAT PORTION OF HIS SALARY WILL BE PAID BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

 IMBERT'S BUSINESS CARD STATES HE IS TECHNICAL ADVISER TO PRESIDENT BONGO FOR DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND HE INDICATED HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS ALSO ASSOCIATE WITH DOACO, LARGE LIBREVILLE CONSTRUCTION FIRM IN WHICH BONGO AND THREE GOG MINISTERS ARE PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IMBERT MAY PREVIOUSLY HAVE ACTED IN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO PRESIDENT OF TOGO.

3. ANY INFORMATION WHICH ADDRESSEES MAY BE ABLE TO

PROVIDE CONCERNING EITHER DAVIS OR IMBERT WOULD BE APPRECIATED. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

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